

AL-24426 CAMBRIDGE

BOROUGH OF CAMBRIDGE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

AND OF

The Borough Dentist

For the Year 1940

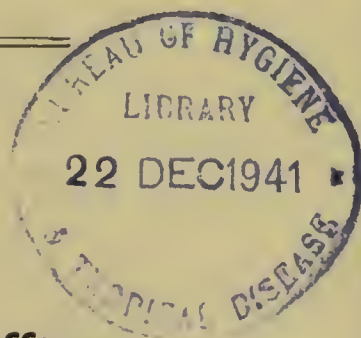
ARTHUR J. SMYTH, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

W. BAIRD GRANDISON, L.D.S., R.C.S., Edin.,

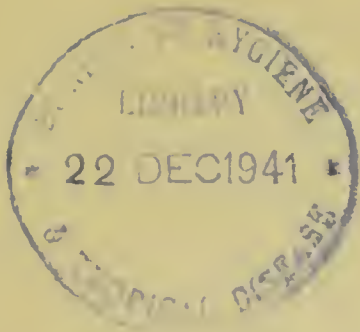
PUBLIC DENTAL OFFICER





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b290888926>



THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
THE GUILDHALL,
CAMBRIDGE.

October 30th, 1941.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Local Education
Authority.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the 33rd Annual Report upon the Medical Inspection of the elementary school children in Cambridge.

In 1939 the School Medical Service was considerably curtailed owing to changes in staff and the influx of evacuees, but in 1940 it was possible to get additional help and routine inspections were resumed. Dr. Laidlaw was appointed in August to succeed Dr. Odling-Smee, as temporary Assistant School Medical Officer, and Miss Dowsing as School Nurse was loaned by the L.C.C to help with the evacuee children.

In general the health of the children has been well maintained. Epidemic disease has not been above the average in incidence, except for a measles epidemic of moderate severity.

The two Clinics have been very busy throughout the year and attendances have greatly increased.

Cleanliness among Cambridge children still leaves room for improvement, and though it is impossible to give figures, it is certain that cases of scabies have appeared in increasing numbers.

The work of the School Teachers has been particularly heavy under trying conditions, and it gives me very real pleasure to record their invariable and sympathetic co-operation in all matters concerning the health of the children.

My special thanks are due to Mr. Lambert and Miss Wallis for their assistance in preparing this report.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR J. SMYTH,

School Medical Officer.

INDEX.	PAGE
NUMBER OF SCHOOLS, ETC.	3
STAFF	3
GENERAL REVIEW	4
GROUPS OF CHILDREN INSPECTED	4
CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS	4
REVIEW OF THE FACTS DISCLOSED BY INSPECTION :	
Children found at Routine Inspection to require treatment	5
Heights and Weights	5
Cleanliness and Clothing	6
Ringworm	6
Tonsils and Adenoids	6
Orthopaedic	6
Cripples and Deformities	7
Defective Vision, Squint and external eye disease ...	7
Ear Disease and Deafness	7
Other Defects	7
Vaccination	8
INSPECTION CLINICS	8
EXAMINATIONS FOR PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DEFECTS ...	8
INFECTIOUS DISEASES AMONG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN	8
DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION	9
TREATMENT OF DEFECTS :	
Addenbrooke's Hospital	9
School Clinics	9
WORK OF THE SCHOOL NURSES	10
OPEN AIR SCHOOL :	
Light treatment	10
Delicate and Physically Defective Children	10
SPECIAL SCHOOL	11
INSTITUTIONAL CARE	11
SUPERVISION BY THE TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER	11
VOLUNTARY AGENCIES	11
SANDWICHES IN SCHOOL	11
PROVISION OF MILK	12
APPENDIX : OFFICIAL TABLES	12
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	15
EVACUATION	15
DENTAL INSPECTION... ..	17

Report of the School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR 1940.

Population of the Borough (1939)	79,140
Area of the Borough	10,057 acres
Number of Elementary Schools	22
Number of Departments	34
Open Air School	1

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Average number of children on registers ...	7141	7251	7273	7276	7134	7202	7170	7057	7033
Average number of children in attendance ...	6446	6566	6581	6595	6419	6300	6467	6352	6185

Staff :—

School Medical Officer	Arthur J. SMYTH, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
*Assistant School Medical Officer	Robert A. READ, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Temporary Assistant School Medical Officer	Mrs. O. K. ODLING-SMEE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (to July)
„ „ „	Miss JANET Y. LAIDLAW M.B., B.S. (from Aug.)
Public Dental Officer	W. Baird GRANDISON, L.D.S., R.C.S.
*Assistant Public Dental Officers	C. HARRIS, L.D.S. Miss PAGE, L.D.S. Mrs. JOHNSON (Temporary) Miss CARTER (Temporary)
Bacteriologist	W. H. HARVEY, M.D. (Part time)
School Nurses and Health Visitors (Joint Service) ...	Miss F. A. NICHOLLS Miss T. GIBBONS Miss E. SPENCER *Miss M. JOHNSON Miss T. O. JAMES Miss R. WHITEWAY Miss P. WHITTAKER Mrs. PATTERSON (Temporary)
Dental Attendants	Miss D. MALLETT Miss E. IMPEY Miss M. HOPKINS
Clerk	Miss G. A. M. WALLIS

together with the part-time services of the Chief Clerk in the Public Health Department.

* Serving with H.M. Forces.

GENERAL REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES IN CAMBRIDGE.

Routine School Medical Inspection was carried out as usual by the Assistant School Medical Officer on three groups of children :—

Entrants, ages 4—6
Intermediates, „ 8 years old
Leavers, „ 12—13

The numbers examined belonging to the three routine groups are shown below.

Routine Cases :	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Entrants ...	266	295	561
Intermediates ...	418	390	808
Leavers ...	510	420	930
	<u>1194</u>	<u>1105</u>	<u>2299</u>

Number of special and re-inspections, 8,448.

The number at routine inspections represents 37.1 per cent. of the number of children in average attendance.

The following Table shows the number of routine inspections carried out at the various schools :—

	Entrants.		Intermediates		Leavers.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Brunswick Council ...	24	31	80	80	—	—
Central ...	—	—	—	—	128	102
Chesterton Senior ...	—	—	—	—	172	152
Coleridge Senior ...	—	—	—	—	158	118
Milton Road ...	37	47	52	41	—	—
Morley Memorial ...	31	38	43	53	—	—
Newnham Croft ...	7	7	13	10	—	—
Park Street ...	6	10	23	29	—	—
Richmond Road ...	7	8	—	—	—	—
Romsey Council ...	—	—	37	39	—	—
St. Andrew's... ..	—	—	30	21	—	—
St. Barnabas... ..	19	18	—	—	—	—
St. George's	—	—	—	—	38	34
St. Luke's	16	14	47	27	—	—
St. Matthew's	—	1	6	4	—	—
St. Paul's	9	10	15	20	—	—
St. Philip's	31	26	41	38	—	—
Sedley	9	17	—	—	—	—
Shirley	49	50	—	—	—	—
St. Andrew's R.C. ...	10	5	19	16	14	11
Cherry Hinton	8	10	8	9	—	—
Trumpington	3	3	4	3	—	—
	<u>266</u>	<u>295</u>	<u>418</u>	<u>390</u>	<u>510</u>	<u>420</u>
	561		808		930	

Co-operation of Parents.—The percentage of parents present at the routine inspections was 71, being 16 per cent. lower than the previous year.

The fluctuations in the routine groups from 1933 are shown below :—

		1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Entrants	...	703	676	790	723	860	702	548	561
Intermediates	...	699	661	651	722	693	725	560	808
Leavers	...	788	746	723	824	832	604	130	930
Totals	...	2190	2083	2164	2269	2459	2111	1299	2299

REVIEW OF THE FACTS DISCLOSED BY INSPECTION.

The total number of "defects" found at "routine" and "special" inspections to require treatment was 2,334, and the number requiring to be kept under observation was 1,526.

The number of "individual children" found at routine inspection to require treatment shows an increase from 336 in 1939 to 459 in 1940, and was 20 per cent of the children examined in the three routine groups. This figure is exclusive of uncleanness and dental disease, but includes children found to require treatment on account of their defective nutritional condition.

Among the "entrants" the percentage requiring treatment was 11.2, and among the "intermediates" and "leavers," 22.6 and 22.1 per cent.

The total number of children with no defects was 1,113, or 48.4 per cent. of the number examined at routine medical inspection. In 1939 the percentage was 25.3.

Before making any comparison of the percentage of defects in the three age groups, it should be borne in mind that the vision of "entrants" is not tested.

Boys.

Age in Years.	No. Examined in 1940.	Average Height in Inches.					Average Weight in Pounds.				
		1912	1937	1938	1939	1940	1912	1937	1938	1939	1940
5	175	40.5	43.18	43.35	43.19	42.85	38.2	42.34	42.29	41.73	42.05
8	410	46.4	49.45	49.76	50.04	49.57	47.6	57.48	57.58	57.54	58.81
12	289	54.9	57.27	57.24	56.99	57.09	72.9	81.56	81.28	80.81	81.07

GIRLS.

Age in Years.	No. Examined in 1940.	Average Height in Inches.					Average Weight in Pounds.				
		1912	1937	1938	1939	1940	1912	1937	1938	1939	1940
5	198	40.5	43.14	43.16	43.10	43.03	37.6	41.79	40.94	40.54	40.64
8	387	46.0	48.96	49.74	49.55	49.34	49.7	55.02	56.77	56.29	56.57
12	270	55.3	58.21	58.17	57.97	58.10	71.3	86.02	85.14	85.83	85.54

Cleanliness.—As remarked in previous years, verminous conditions still persist through the occurrence of the condition in a few families of chronic offenders. In these cases one can usually note that certain members of the family are of low mentality. Dirty clothing was rare, but unfortunately dirty feet were noted on several occasions, indicating neglect on the part of the parents.

The total number of individual children found unclean at school by the School Nurses during the visits they have made specially for this purpose during 1940, was 392, as compared with 303 in 1939.

The proportion found with pediculi in their heads was 1.7 per cent. In 1939 the proportion was 1.3 per cent.

No proceedings were taken under Section 122 of the Children Act, 1908, but proceedings in Court were taken under the School Attendance Bye-laws in 9 cases.

Ringworm.—There were no cases of ringworm discovered during 1940.

The new cases discovered each year from 1929 were as follows :—

1929	'30	'31	'32	'33	'34	'35	'36	'37	'38	'39	'40
2	9	12	5	3	5	2	3	10	7	2	0

Tonsils and Adenoids.—318 children (13.9 per cent.) had considerably enlarged tonsils. Of these 49 required treatment as compared with 57 in 1939.

Orthopaedic.—There has been an increase in the number of children with orthopaedic defects referred to Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Seventy-three children were referred to the Hospital for the following conditions :—

Flat feet	...	...	...	...	36
Knock knees	...	...	...	...	3
Posture and spinal curvature	...	...	...	...	5
Deformities	...	...	...	...	29

Many of these children attend weekly at the Hospital for remedial exercises, and in some cases alterations are made to the footgear. The children are always advised to persevere with exercises at home, but it has become evident that few remember to do so.

In order to ensure more efficient treatment it has been decided to institute special remedial exercises under Hospital supervision at certain suitable schools where modern gymnasiums are available. Bad cases attend hospital and minor cases are supervised by Miss Bennett.

Detection of flat feet is an important preventive duty of a School Medical Officer. Much suffering from sore feet and corns in later life can be saved by prompt treatment of this condition.

Cripples and Deformities.—The defects found include :—flat foot, 51 ; after effects of rickets, 3 ; spinal curvature, 21 ; round shoulders, 37 ; bad posture, 22 ; knock knees, 19 ; bowed legs, 6 ; flat chest, 7 ; over-riding toes, 2 ; deformed toes, 2 ; and other conditions, 11.

Defective Vision.—The number of children found at routine inspection to have defective vision (6/9 or worse) was 218. Of these 149 required treatment.

In addition to the above 218 children, 47 “ specials ” were examined, 12 during routine inspection and 35 at the Clinic. All except 7 required treatment.

Squint.—Fourteen children were noted with squint in the year. 4 of these required treatment.

External Eye Disease.—The conditions found were Blepharitis 5, Squint 14 and 19 other conditions, making a total of 38. The total number of similar conditions in 1939 was 41.

Ear Disease and Deafness.—The number of children found with defective hearing was 11, or 0.5 per cent. of those inspected. Nine had a purulent ear discharge (0.4 per cent.). The percentages for several years are given in comparison.

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Otorrhoea	0.1	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.7	1.5	1.0	0.4
Deafness	0.8	2.1	1.7	4.3	4.5	4.1	4.8	5.4	0.5

The Audiometer was not used in the schools owing to lack of suitable accommodation due to the schools being utilised to the full for evacuated school children. Moreover, the incessant noise from aeroplanes made the test practically useless.

Other Defects.—These include 56 children with irregular action of the heart, 10 stammerers, 51 with indication of nervous instability, 37 suffering from anaemia, and 8 from rheumatism.

Vaccination.—The proportion of children found with vaccination marks in 1940 was 21.9 per cent., this being 3.9 per cent. more than the previous year.

INSPECTION CLINICS.

The Clinics are open every weekday, including Saturdays, from 9.30 a.m. until 1 p.m. The Assistant Medical Officer, three School Nurses, and a Clerk are in attendance.

The total number of children inspected at the Clinics during 1940 was 11,301, 3,345 more than in 1939.

The attendance in 1940 numbered 20,559, an increase of 7,415 as compared with 1939.

The average daily attendance during 1940 was 68.

Special Examinations for Physical or Mental Defect.—A number of children are examined at the Clinic who come under special groups, either physical or mental. They include the children who are receiving milk in the schools on medical grounds; those whose condition suggests the need for a period at the Open Air School, and those whose mental capacity is in question.

The children specially examined for mental defect in 1940 numbered 24 (9 boys and 15 girls). The number recommended for the Special School was 14 (5 boys and 9 girls).

The number examined for physical defects was 109 (59 boys and 50 girls). All were recommended for the Open Air School.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AMONG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The following table shows the incidence of Infectious Disease among school children notified by the Head Teachers during the year:—

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Scarlet Fever ...	62	112	126	112	72	38	79	67	91
Diphtheria ...	12	6	2	3	1	2	3	4	4
Influenza ...	—	82	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	634	209	83	1054	138	268	674	35	532
German Measles	2	4	11	60	926	5	51	53	76
Whooping Cough	215	202	180	38	335	199	30	200	134
Chicken Pox ...	250	196	357	224	215	209	445	266	288
Mumps ...	270	15	15	11	1098	260	9	46	130
Ringworm ...	5	3	4	1	3	3	7	—	—
Scabies ...	1	3	—	—	1	2	—	4	4
Skin Diseases ...	12	12	19	30	32	19	17	8	11
"Pink Eye" ...	—	—	347	7	7	1	1	2	1
Others ...	71	84	66	80	43	44	36	33	24
Totals ...	1534	928	1210	1620	2871	1050	1352	718	1295

Diphtheria Immunisation.—

IMMUNISATION AND SCHICK TEST, 1940.

Number inoculated	...	...	524
Under 5	„	...	129
Over 5	„	...	395

SCHICK TEST.

Two hundred and twenty-five were tested for the first time.

Two hundred and eighteen were negative and 7 positive. 5 of these positives received another inoculation.

Thirteen were tested for the second time, and all were negative.

Two were tested for the third time and found to be negative.

The figures for previous years are given for comparison :—

	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
Number inoculated ...	827	719	685	606	393	524
Number “ Schicked ”	578	675	803	734	413	253

TREATMENT OF DEFECTS.

The total number of children treated for minor ailments at the Clinics was 3,934 ; of this number 1,433 children attended for the first time. The attendances numbered 10,591. In addition, treatment was given to 186 for defective vision, 50 for diseases of the throat and nose, and 5,666 for dental disease, making a total of 9,836 cases treated in 1940 as compared with 7,545 in 1939.

Of the 186 who attended for defective vision, spectacles were prescribed in 158 cases. Ninety-eight children received their spectacles during the year under the Authority's scheme.

Hospital Treatment.—Five hundred and seventy-five children received treatment at Addenbrooke's Hospital, the conditions requiring treatment being :—Disease of the ears, 69 ; eyes, 10 ; tonsils and adenoids, 75 ; skin disease, 34 ; minor injuries, 56 ; flat feet, 36 ; over-riding toes, 2 ; knock-knees, 3 ; various other conditions, 324 ; speech defects, 13 ; making a total of 623 defects in 575 children.

In addition, a number of children have received Light Treatment at the Hospital.

WORK OF THE SCHOOL NURSES.

The total number of visits made to schools in the year was 978, of which 124 were in connection with the routine medical inspections, 233 for cleanliness survey, and the remainder for various other purposes.

The "home" visits numbered 2,869 in the year; 363 for the purpose of following-up cases of defects found at routine inspections, 1,666 in connection with infectious disease, and 840 visits of enquiry as to the cause of absence of children notified as ill by Head Teachers and School Attendance Officers.

The figures in 1939 were :—Total home visits 1,644, following-up 342, infectious diseases 954, absentees 348.

OPEN AIR SCHOOL.

The Open Air School is very popular with the parents, and the waiting list during the year varied from 7 to 30 children.

As noted before, arrangements have been made for admitting cases of subnormal nutrition.

The average stay of a child at the Open Air School is 18 months, and varies from one term to several years.

During the year cases suitable for admission have been referred to the Assistant School Medical Officer by private doctors.

LIGHT TREATMENT AT THE OPEN AIR SCHOOL.

Considerable use was made of the Artificial Sunlight Lamp. 31 boys and 22 girls received treatment for the undermentioned conditions :—

Anaemia.
Debility.
Malnutrition.
Bronchitis.
Tubercular Neck Glands.
Tubercular Hip.
Asthma.
Enlarged Non-Tubercular Glands.
Rheumatism.

Delicate and Physically Defective Children.—The number on the register of the Open Air School in Milton Road at the beginning of the year was 116. During the year 79 children left and 82 were admitted. Of the 79 children who left the school during the year, 68 returned to their ordinary schools, 4 left the town, 2 had reached school leaving age, and 1 left at the wish of the parents. 1 was excluded from attendance and 3 were transferred to the Special School.

SPECIAL SCHOOL.

The number in the school at the beginning of the year was 38. Seven left and 13 were admitted, leaving 44 children in attendance at the end of the year. Of the 7 who left, 1 was admitted to a Residential School, 2 were notified to the Local Control Authority for statutory supervision, and 4 were granted permission to leave.

INSTITUTIONAL CARE.

The number of defective children maintained in Institutions by the Education Committee during 1940 was : blind 5, deaf and dumb 2, mentally defective 3, epileptic 1, deaf and partially blind 1, orthopaedic 2.

SUPERVISION BY THE TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER.

The number of children reported upon by the Tuberculosis Officer during the year was 19. Nine were excluded from attending school and 8 non-infectious cases were recommended for the Open Air School.

VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

Voluntary associations which carry on work among school children, and which give most valuable help, include the Care Committee, the Central Aid Society, and the Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare.

The Inspector of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children gave assistance in several cases during the year.

The Education Committee make an annual grant to the Ely Diocesan Association for looking after deaf and dumb children during holiday times, and for their efforts in placing such children in occupations after leaving school.

An Occupation Centre for low grade mentally defectives established and managed by the Cambridge Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare has been in existence since 1929. The premises used are those of the Fitzroy Hall, Wellington Street.

It is open every weekday. The number attending during 1940 was 30 ; of whom eight were boys. The number under 16 years of age was fifteen.

SANDWICHES.

At the end of the year the average number of children receiving sandwiches daily in school was 51.

Owing to the war it has been impossible to carry out any investigation on the result of this scheme, and it has now become difficult to get the proper ingredients.

PROVISION OF MILK IN SCHOOL.

The number of children receiving milk in school at December 31st was 5,846. Of this number 934 were receiving it free on medical grounds.

The Central Aid Society assess the parents' ability to pay for milk in school, but every child for whom it is recommended receives it free until the assessment is made.

The milk was distributed during the Christmas holidays from five Centres :—The Municipal Health Centre, Auckland Road ; the Romsey, Coleridge Road ; Milton Road School ; Shirley Infants' School, and from Cherry Hinton School.

TABLE I.—RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups.

Entrants ...	...	...	...	561
Second Age Group ...	...	...	...	808
Third Age Group ...	...	...	...	930
Total				2299
Number of other Routine Inspections	...	...	...	Nil.

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 8448

TABLE II

Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

Age-groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ...	561	142	25.3	360	64.2	59	10.5	—	—
Second Age-group...	808	259	32.0	475	58.8	74	9.2	—	—
Third Age-group	930	210	22.6	624	67.1	96	10.3	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1299	611	26.6	1459	63.5	229	9.9	—	—

TABLE III. Return of Defects Treated during the year
ended 31st December, 1940.

TREATMENT TABLE.

Group I. Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group IV.)

Disease or Defect.	No. of Defects treated or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise	Total.
Skin—			
Ringworm—Scalp—			
(i.) X-Ray Treatment	—	—	—
(ii.) Other „	—	—	—
Ringworm—Body	—	—	—
Scabies	53	74	127
Impetigo	209	19	228
Other Skin Disease	363	86	449
Minor Eye Defects	260	53	313
(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)			
Minor Ear Defects	103	24	127
Miscellaneous	2172	518	2690
(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)			
Total	3160	774	3934

Group II. Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.)

Defect or Disease.	No. of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Other-wise.	Total.
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	186	—	186
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	—	—	—
Total ...	186	—	186

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed

(a)	Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	158
(b)	Otherwise	...	...	—

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles

(a)	Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	98
(b)	Otherwise	...	...	—

Group III. Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.
Number of Defects.

Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.	Total.		
50	—	50	—	50

Group IV. Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(i)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	...	7
(ii)	Total number of Examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	16,443
(iii)	Number of individual children found unclean	...	...	...	392
(iv)	Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	...	...	...	Nil
(v)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :				
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	Nil
	(b) Under School Attendance Bye-Laws	...	...	...	9

TABLE IV. Blind and Deaf Children.

	At a Public Elementary School.	At an Institution other than a Special School.	At no School or Institution.	Total not receiving suitable Education.
Blind Children...	—	—	1	1
Deaf Children ...	—	1	1	1

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

Total number of children notified during the year ended December 31, 1940, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928 :—6.

EVACUATION.

During the year the medical inspection of 967 children was carried out, as follows :—

Entrants	...	...	...	418
Intermediates	...	...	...	416
Leavers	...	...	...	133

The eyes of 134 children were refracted. 99 were prescribed for spectacles ; 71 received their spectacles.

Inspection of Heads.—6,515 inspections were made during the year ; 175 were unclean.

The number of children attending the Clinics for treatment was 1,287, and they made 2,782 attendances.

The number of Evacuees on the Register at December 31, 1940, was 1,409.

REPORT OF THE ORGANISER OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR THE YEAR 1940.

The war has, of course, made great changes in the lives and occupations of most people. In some cases this results in lack of interest in routine work and consequent deterioration in standards of efficiency, or in inability to make the adjustments required by disorganised conditions. It is pleasing, therefore, to record that though there has been some deterioration in the work of Physical Education in the Borough, these general causes, outside the control of the teachers, have not influenced them, and they have fully maintained their interest in the subject.

The report must of necessity be brief, but the chief reasons for the temporary decline in the standard of work must be explained :—

1. The calling up of the male staff and the employment of older supply teachers with less knowledge of modern Physical Training tends to have an inhibitory effect on the work. It is hoped to hold a class to assist these teachers during the present year.
2. The restriction of indoor accommodation, caused by larger classes, additional classes and, in some few schools, the presence of A.R.P. personnel, are an obvious source of difficulty, particularly in winter.
3. The constant daylight air raid warnings make the necessary regular changing of clothes impracticable. Many teachers have contrived to overcome these difficulties, but in Infant Schools even the changing of slippers does present a problem. It is hoped that the summer will show better results.

In happy contrast to these difficulties it must again be strongly emphasised that the spirit of the teachers is unimpaired, and that by using their initiative and common sense, in most schools, they continue to interest, exercise and train the children.

The work in the Senior Schools was shown to advantage at a demonstration in the Guildhall in November, 1940, and the excellence of the performance of the Central School girls aroused much enthusiasm, and afforded evidence of the sound training they had received throughout their school life. In the Junior Schools leadership training is still not sufficiently stressed, and posture training should take a more important place in the lesson.

On the games side it has been most encouraging to the girls' schools to have the use of Parker's Piece for hockey, and the action of the Commons Committee has been fully appreciated and justified. The standard of play is still not high, but the saving of time, hitherto spent in travelling, has resulted in keener and more spirited playing. The girls' schools would benefit greatly if this privilege could be extended in subsequent years. Lawn Tennis is the most popular game for girls when they leave school, and it is desirable to give some training in the last year of school life. The expense incurred need not be large, and it is much to be hoped that it may form one of the regular summer activities for the Senior Schools, and so train the children to take their part in outdoor social activities later.

The swimming season for those schools in the Coldham's Lane area was short, and many schools in other areas did not participate on account of war problems. It was possible, however, to plan extra sessions during the holiday period, and the baths were used extensively in beautiful weather. All swimming sports were abandoned.

A Central European Dancing Course was well attended by local teachers, and the schools which have been able to adopt this free type of dancing are very pleased with the results. Chesterton Senior girls, who have been the pioneers in Cambridge, gave a pleasing display at the Guildhall Demonstration.

In conclusion, the Organiser welcomes with sincere pleasure the release of her colleague from the Army, and wishes to express her appreciation to the Education Officer and his staff for their many kindnesses during his absence.

(Signed) ROSALIND C. BENNETT,

Organiser of Physical Education.

29th March, 1941.

REPORT ON THE DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

FOR THE YEAR 1940.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the thirty-third report on the working of the Dental Centre, covering a period from January 1st, 1940, to December 31st, 1940, inclusive.

Again I will respectfully invite you to accept a restricted report confined to the following statistics, which are those required by the Board of Education under the heading "Table V, Dental Defects."

I would emphasise, however, that in this war year the work of the Dental Department has proceeded more or less normally, and all schools in the Borough have been visited, and all the children who required treatment and accepted were treated, including, of course, the children who have been evacuated from various areas.

TABLE V. Dental Defects.

(1) Number of Children who were :—				(2) Half-days devoted to :—			
(a) Inspected by the Dentists :				Inspection ... 67			
				Administration ... 7			
				Treatment ... 1665			
				} Total 1737			
				(3) Attendances made by			
				Children for treat-			
				ment ... 6258			
				(4) Fillings :—			
				Permanent Teeth 7575			
				Temporary Teeth 361			
				} Total 7936			
				(5) Extractions :—			
				Permanent Teeth 1098			
				Temporary Teeth 5316			
				} Total 6414			
				(6) Administrations of General			
				anaesthetics for ex-			
				tractions ... 16			
				(7) Other operations			
				(chiefly Ag No ₃ + f.			
				Howe's Method) :—			
				Permanent Teeth 248			
				Temporary Teeth 5347			
				} Total 5595			
				Orthodontic Cases, 35 ; Crown, 1 ;			
				Dentures, 10 ; Scaling, 246.			

(1) Number of Children who were :—			
(a) Inspected by the Dentists :			
Aged	3	Years	12
"	4	"	68
"	5	"	587
"	6	"	691
"	7	"	817
"	8	"	865
"	9	"	879
"	10	"	839
"	11	"	952
"	12	"	779
"	13	"	725
"	14	" or	
	more		452
Specials	231	Grand Total	7,897
236 children who were inspected, and whose teeth were not sound, did not, in the opinion of the Dentists, require treatment.			
(b) Found to require treatment ... 5857			
(c) Actually treated ... 5666			

The staff comprises one senior dental officer and three assistant dental officers as follows :—W. B. Grandison, Miss M. E. C. Page, Mrs. Johnson (temporary), acting for Mr. C. Harris, who is with His Majesty's Forces, and Miss Carter (temporary), employed to attend to the teeth

of the evacuees. In addition, there are four dental attendants :—Miss Impey, Miss Mallett, Miss Hopkins and Miss Lay (temporary to assist Miss Carter), together with the services of Mr. Samson, dental mechanic, for orthodontic work and any other work of a mechanical nature.

I am,

DENTAL CENTRE,

AUCKLAND ROAD,

CAMBRIDGE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. BAIRD GRANDISON.

December 31st, 1940.

